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Appln. No. 09/160,604  
Amendment dated March 16, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 18, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 980624/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Hitoshi HASHIMOTO

Serial No. : 09/160,604

Filed : September 25, 1998

For : AUTO-FOCUSING APPARATUS  
SELECTIVELY OPERABLE IN AN  
ORDINARY MODE AND A HIGH  
SPEED MODE

Art Unit : 2612

Examiner : Ngoc Yen P. Vu

Confirm. No.: 6549

Customer No.: 01933

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*Martyn Stults*  
Martyn Stults

Dated: March 16, 2004

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charge the extension fee to  
Account No. 06-1378.

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - GROUP 2800**

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P.O. Box 1450  
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S I R :

This is responsive to the Final Office Action dated December  
18, 2003, the term for response to which expires March 18, 2004.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims  
which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.

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